

MONASTIC SCOUTS FEEDING OF POLES

RAID GERMAN LINES AND OFTEN HOLD ENEMY IN CHECK.

HEROISM OF RED CROSS COLUMNS UNDER FIRE

Often Called Upon to Feed Healthy as Well as Succor the Wounded.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.
HEADQUARTERS OF THE RUSSIAN ARMY OF THE CENTER, December 18.—One of the most perilous branches of army service in Russia is that of mounted scouts, an organization peculiar to the Siberian Corps. There are 100 of these scouts to each regiment, and a smaller number with the regiments. They would be hard to find. They are for the most part plain men, whose life has been spent in the open and on horseback.

This organization played an important part in the Japanese war, where by their impetuous attacks they saved the Russian troops in many instances from heavy losses. After the Japanese outbreak of the present conflict, they were reorganized by Capt. Benjamin Pessotsky, who became their commander. During the recent months while the Russians and Germans fought in the trenches, scouts frequently have raided the German lines, and during the last week in November the eastern front was bagged a German staff, consisting of two generals, a doctor and six non-commissioned officers. The scouts were killed in the action.

City Defended by Scouts.

The following incidents concerning the scouts' activities earlier in the war were given by an officer at the front, who participated in the events related:

At 2 o'clock on the afternoon of September 29 the last companies of the first division left their positions before Warsaw to take up other positions behind the defenses of the city. The scouts, however, remained in the city. The scouts took upon themselves to order his men to spread out and occupy the left wing of the positions behind the defenses of the city. The scouts took upon themselves to order his men to spread out and occupy the left wing of the positions behind the defenses of the city. The scouts took upon themselves to order his men to spread out and occupy the left wing of the positions behind the defenses of the city.

Red Cross Flying Columns.

One of the most interesting phases of the work is the operation of the flying columns, which move along the eastern front, carrying supplies and medical aid. In each flying column there is an officer in charge with all the rights of a military commander of a separate military unit, although he may come from civil life. Besides him there are two or three aids. The medical side of the organization is represented by three surgeons, eight nurses and two orderlies. The columns are composed of two hundred and eighty men to each column are assigned and trained to the work required of them, from the ranks of enlisted men. The columns have also a large number of military carriers, several field kitchens, field operating rooms and in case of necessity tents to live in.

A Scrap of Paper.

According to Le Figaro, the famous expression, "A scrap of paper," was used by Lord Chesterfield, and, strangely enough, to brand the conduct of an ancestor of William III—the great Frederick himself. The latter, betraying the French alliance to negotiate in an underhand way with England, had ordered his minister, Frederick, to explain to Lord Chesterfield that the invasion of Bohemia had not been a real act of aggression, but a precaution of legitimate defense taken against the threats and snares of Austrian politicians.

THE WATCHDOG OF THE HOME.

Mr. Neighbors—My almost frozen this morning. My furnace was west of me. Mr. Power—If you had a wife like mine at home your furnace would be out at night.

GERMANS TOOK OVER BIG JOB WHEN THEY CONQUERED RUSSIAN PROVINCE.

Men Inclined to Be Suspicious and Must Be Forced Into Work.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.
WARSAW, December 3.—With their arrival in Warsaw the Germans found that they not only had to supply the needs of the country districts to see how great the needs of the returning inhabitants might be. They reported that the Russians not only had burned up all existing food supplies, but empty barns that were to house the returning refugees had been destroyed by sending the trains over destroyed bridges into the hands of the enemy. The Germans found that the Polish roads, and have been destroyed in this way, their inhabitants being forced, under penalty of death, to flee to the east.

Charges of Bribery Made.

Bribery played a not unimportant part in the retreat, it is claimed. As conspicuous examples, there stand, here and there throughout Poland, lone houses that not only have been abandoned, but the inhabitants maintain that their immunity was purchased with rubles, or that they were left unmolested because they were Russian rather than Polish. The Germans up to date have been able to investigate only a part of the territory evacuated by the Russians. The fear of thousands of fugitives who now are homeless will mount into the millions eventually. The investigations of the regular lines of retreat were destroyed, but also that villages far removed from the front were ravaged also. The only exceptions are the comparatively infrequent houses of Russians, as differentiated from Poles.

In thousands the inhabitants were driven from their homes. The German pursuit became too hot for the civilians—including old men and women—were ruthlessly killed. They were ordered to go back in the hope that they would obstruct German movement to drive back the Germans. This was the beginning of the German retreat. The German retreat was the beginning of the German retreat. The German retreat was the beginning of the German retreat.

Lumber From Royal Forests.

In anticipation of winter, the Germans began cutting lumber from the Russian royal forests and the Polish forests. The Polish forests were cut down by the Germans. The Polish forests were cut down by the Germans. The Polish forests were cut down by the Germans.

Reconstruction of Roads.

Something over a million and a half dollars has been expended by the Germans since their occupancy of Poland in reconstructing the roads. The roads were reconstructed by the Germans. The roads were reconstructed by the Germans. The roads were reconstructed by the Germans.

Work Is Done Thoroughly.

That it has been thoroughly done, however, is attested by the fact that between 30,000 and 35,000 laborers have been employed in the various sections of Poland. Most of these men are Poles, through out of their ordinary occupations, but they have been put to work on the roads.

MORTARS AND AMMUNITION TAKEN FROM SERBS.



IN THE GREAT ONSLAUGHT ON THE SERBS BY THE FORCES OF THE CENTRAL POWERS, THE FORMER LOST A GREAT MANY OF THEIR FIGHTING WEAPONS AND THOUSANDS OF ROUNDS OF AMMUNITION.

UNDER WOODS.

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Position to Vaccination That Was Overcome.

Poland was immediately divided up into forty-nine sections, in thirty-five of which was possible to install German physicians, and additional doctors being brought in as fast as possible. The first duty was to establish sanitary conditions. With but few exceptions the cities and towns had never heard of good drainage system. The streets were disease breeders, and the public convenience stations were dangerous. Since the outbreak of the epidemic, the public was dependent on the latrines, which were in a state of filth. The latrines were in a state of filth. The latrines were in a state of filth.

Cholera Is Stamped Out.

Thyphus to a smaller extent existed, principally in Lodz, where strict German methods were introduced. Cholera was prevalent along the right bank of the Vistula, practically all of which has been destroyed by this time. To prevent the disease from traveling into Germany, via the water route, cholera prevention stations were installed all along the Vistula from Warsaw. The stations were in a state of filth. The stations were in a state of filth. The stations were in a state of filth.

Government Quickly Installed.

It took the Germans just about a week to install in the province of Warsaw, the most important in all Poland, a government that, for the smoothness of its operation, seems remarkable under the circumstances.

Kept Band Under Arms.

During the brief periods separating the first Balkan war from the second, and the second Balkan war from the present European struggle, the internal administration of Serbia was such a state of disorder that it seemed to "Babounsky" better to retain his band under arms and to assist in the administration of a rough and ready justice than to send his followers to their own homes. In this capacity, even in the short intervals of peace, he kept his name as a kind of modern Robin Hood, the friend of the weak and the terror of the evildoer.

The Ruffed Grouse, Too.

The pinnated grouse, or prairie chicken, is by no means the only desirable game bird whose extinction is threatened in Minnesota. The ruffed grouse, or partridge, is in even greater danger. Its growing scarcity has been noted by many travelers in the country. The ruffed grouse is in even greater danger. Its growing scarcity has been noted by many travelers in the country.

Palms But No Sams.

From the Boston Transcript.
Mrs. J., suspecting the cook was entertaining her beau in the kitchen, called Martha and said she thought she heard some one talking with her.

Battle Against Disease.

It has taken the most strenuous efforts of German medical forces to overcome the epidemics of typhoid, smallpox, rabies and other diseases that they found prevalent in Poland when they arrived. They had to contend not only with shortages of medicaments, but also with the distrust of the people and a distinct op-

SERBIA GUERRILLA DEALS OUT JUSTICE

Name of "Babounsky" Has Become a Terror to Evildoers.

GIVES A SHORT SHRIFT TO TRAITORS TO COUNTRY

Was Country School Teacher Before Taking Up Arms in First Balkan War.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

GENEVILLE, Serbia, November 29.—One of the most picturesque figures of the European war is the Serbian "komitadj", or guerrilla Ivan Stokovitch, known to fame as "Babounsky". The name is drawn from the famous Babouna pass, where recently the Serbs so long held the invading Bulgarians at bay. Ivan Stokovitch comes from that part of Serbia and is therefore known to his followers and to the Serbian population at large by a nickname indicating the fact.

A slight man, tall, with honest gray-blue eyes and the pale features of a student, he impresses the stranger with anything but the terror which his name inspires. Nor do his looks belie his real profession. For the redoubtable "Babounsky" was a school teacher until, fired by an ardent patriotism, he gave up his classes to gather about him a band of intrepid spirits in the fight for the release of the Turkish part of Serbia from the Ottoman yoke.

Journey Seems Interminable.

The journey from Saloniki to Krivopal, by the single track railroad seems interminable. Fifteen hours to do seventy-five miles. The French complain bitterly that the delay in the Greek end of the line. Already the Greek engineers are double-tracking the railroad from the Greek-Serbian frontier north. There are no fixed train lines, and everything is subservient to the transport of troops, munitions, supplies. On the journey of the train, the current of the wounded—of armies needing repair, of empty rolling stock, of large numbers of men and women, of passenger coach on the train, crowded with officers charged with the communications of the various armies en route, of the telegraph wires are also uncertain—with sanitary officers, medical officers, commissary staff and a few others, the train is a veritable army.

Short Shrift for Bulgars.

Whoever among the Bulgarians was suspected of giving information to the advancing Bulgar armies also received short shrift. A story is told of the first Balkan war, when a certain Bulgarian, known as "Kechko", was suspected of treason to the Serbian cause. "Babounsky's" band appeared upon the scene one night and "Kechko" and four others were arrested, tried in secret by the band at midnight and sentenced to be "sent to Saloniki". That is, taken to the banks of the Vardar river, stabbed and thrown in, their bodies were left to rot in the moonlight. Against a sand bar the current has washed three black objects. Logs? As the train passes close to them, those who have looked out of the train windows see that one of the black objects is a human body. The other two are the bones of a man and a woman. "Good God, what are those?" "Some of Babounsky's acquaintances," says the French officer.

Covered from the unskillful stab of the Belgrade lawyer, "Kechko" quietly departed for America, where he lives still, unfettered by the famous guerrilla.

Whenever the allied troops have need of fresh meat or wood or mules one of the guerrillas is sent to the mountains with what is required. The next day twenty sheep, two cords of wood or a hundred mules are brought into Negotin or Rhapsard, as the case may be, by a Serbian peasant. The peasant collects an equitable sum for the goods delivered or for the mules received by his men.

On the Front in Serbia.

KRIVOPAL, Serbia, December 4, 1915.—Krivopal is the debarkation point of the French armies in the field in the Balkan campaign—as a village, it is small and unclean, with more the character of a Turkish or a Bulgarian than a Serbian town. There are no accommodations for anybody. The railway station, with its chimney knocked down by a Bulgarian shell, is the most imposing building. To the east is the Vardar, still swollen with rains, shifting its course from time to time. To the north, where the Vardar bends in a westerly direction, is what the French call the "mountain of the Karas Hodz".

Warning Against Gambling.

"There is a story there," said the military escort. "That place was begun by a son of one of the dogs, but the son got to gambling, lost all his money and mortgaged the place and was hanged. And so the old dog ordered that all work on the place should be stopped and never again start up. He was hanged for gambling against gambling. And there it stands today, after 400 years, just as it stood when the dog was hanged, still giving its warning."

Weight Increases Strength.

The Rialto bridge is the very heart of the busy merchant quarter. This famous bridge is the only one known to have been made stronger by increasing its weight. It began to crack at the outset and the architect said, "Add more weight."

"Friends" of Babounsky.

Slowly the train approaches kilometer 85, where the railway crosses the Vardar to the side of the Bulgarians. The bridge was destroyed three years ago in the last Balkan war—and has not been properly rebuilt since. The train creeps across it. The swirling waters of the Vardar are white in the moonlight. Against a sand bar the current has washed three black objects. Logs? As the train passes close to them, those who have looked out of the train windows see that one of the black objects is a human body. The other two are the bones of a man and a woman. "Good God, what are those?" "Some of Babounsky's acquaintances," says the French officer.

WRECKED BRIDGE

Tourists No Longer Come and Canals Are Almost Deserted.

FOOD FAIRLY PLENTIFUL, BUT PRICES HAVE SOARED

Always Over Ancient City Hangs the Terror of Bombs From the Air.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

VENICE, December 7.—Take a gondola for a trip through the Grand Canal during these war days and you will see many changes in the center of interest well known to travelers and readers—the war dress of homes of Lord Byron and the Composer Wagner, of the Poet Browning and the American writer, W. D. Howells; the romantic palace where Desdemona waited for Othello and farther along in the market quarter near the Rialto bridge, the house of Shylock, the quaint building standing there unchanged today, but now used as a butcher's shop, where a lusty Italian butcher exacts Shylock war prices of 90 cents a kilo for the pounds of beef and mutton and 80 cents a kilo for the mutton.

Starting from the quay San Marco, the broad lagoons entering the Grand Canal have an air of martial and naval preparation rather than the usual carnival aspect which marks this center. The quays are lined with soldiers and sailors, and the gondolas are carrying great loads of war supplies back and forth and transporting troops and material. But the people are not suffering launches from the warships dart in and out among the gondolas.

Ordinarily there are 5,000 gondolas in the Grand Canal, but only a few of these remain in use owing to the terror in the closed and crowded streets. Only one first-class hotel remains open, and half of it is given over to a hospital for the wounded brought in from nearby fighting lines.

Red Cross Headquarters.

Entering the Grand Canal, the great domes of Santa Maria della Salute are seen. The Red Cross headquarters are here, where most of the work of the field hospitals is regulated. The Palace Venier, next to the church, is the headquarters of the Red Cross administration, and the Red Cross flags are flying everywhere as a warning of immunity from bombardment.

Turks No Longer Fear Invasion by the Allies.

Constantinople, December 15.—The withdrawal of a large portion of the allied troops on the Gallipoli peninsula was almost coincident with the arrival at the Turkish front of heavy German and Austrian batteries, which are so formidable that the people of Constantinople believe there is no longer the slightest doubt as to the ability of the Ottoman army to clear the peninsula of the invaders. Large shipments of ammunition for the Turkish artillery also recently reached the Dardanelles coast batteries and the field guns, and according to indications in the Turkish press, the Ottoman troops are constantly increasing their effectiveness in artillery fire.

Equipped With Modern Rifles.

Although tens of thousands of the Turkish infantrymen fought for some time with rifles of the antique Snyder type, they have all now been equipped with modern models, notably the Russian Mausers. The great scarcity of machine guns has been made up by the British and French, who have sent to the Turkish front a number of modern machine guns. The British and French men-of-war coming too close to the coast.

Turks Faced Serious Problem.

As pointed out in previous dispatches, the lack of sufficient artillery and ammunition proved at times a sore problem for the Turkish troops. The Turkish artillery fire was always weak, and the allied warships were able to take the Turkish positions under the most favorable conditions. It has already been pointed out that the British and French men-of-war coming too close to the coast.

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